

REMARKS

Applicants are grateful for the indication of allowable subject matter for claims 1-10. In order to expedite issuance, Applicants withdraw from consideration previously pending claims 1-16, 29-43, 45 and 46 without prejudice or waiver as to their underlying subject matter.

It is respectfully submitted that, in view of the foregoing remarks and amendments, the application is in clear condition for allowance. Issuance of a Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

Although not believed necessary, the Office is hereby authorized to charge any fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or § 1.17 or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 11-0600.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at 202-220-4200 to discuss any matter regarding this application.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: February 25, 2004

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